

ALLIED AGAINST ENGLAND.

CONTINENTAL POWERS COMBINED FOR OFFENCE.

Ready to Support President Kruger's Demand for the Complete Independence of the Transvaal. Although a Midwinter Crisis Was Not in the Original Plan, England Goes on Preparing for War—Many Ships Ordered to Be Made Ready—Arrests in Johannesburg—Kruger's Reply to the Queen—The Emperor, Too, Replies to His Grandmother.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—The development of the European crisis becomes hourly more interesting. The absence of all news regarding the intentions of both the Kaiser and the Czar receives a peaceful interpretation in most quarters. It is doubtful if events take a really decisive turn for several days. There shall have a decision, in which St. Petersburg, Berlin, and Paris will all be represented. We shall learn then whether the Continental combination for the overthrow of British prestige includes war in its programme.

There is a strong disinclination in France to support Germany in the present quarrel. If Russia had been the aggressor against England there would have been prompt and hearty support from both Germany and France. French embarrassment, however, has probably been removed by President Kruger. There is the highest authority for saying that the Boer President has submitted to the Continental Government his demands for redress on account of the recent invasion. If Great Britain refuses to satisfy them President Kruger will appeal for assistance to the Continental powers. Germany will then no longer be the leader of the quarrel, and there are strong reasons for believing that Russia, France, and Germany would act in concert in complying with the Boer request.

It is not yet known positively what the Boer demands are, but it is certain that they include more than a mere money indemnity. It is known that President Kruger has received from Europe strong encouragement to demand the complete independence of the Transvaal, and he has probably done so. I have at length obtained authoritative information that the German Emperor, on Monday last, declared it to be his intention to recognize the independence of the Transvaal republic. It is now clearer than ever that if he does this, alone or in combination with others, war will follow. I expect to cable to-morrow important evidence showing the existence of Continental offensive alliances against England, but I am inclined to believe that the present crisis, with its threatened outbreak of war in midwinter, was not a prearranged part of that plan of campaign.

It is certain that the British Government are now fully alive to all features of the situation. There is no abatement of the war preparations. It was reported this afternoon that a second special squadron had been ordered to prepare for sea. This was, alone or in combination with others, have been given which will make it possible within a few days to send out two or three special squadrons on forty-eight hours' notice. A large number of war ships have been ordered to be ready for sea on the 20th inst., but no rendezvous has been appointed.

It is a curious fact that no Cabinet council has been held. Through all the stages of the crisis, however, the principal members have been in almost daily consultation. To-morrow a formal session of the full Cabinet will be held. It will be the most important meeting for many years. Some persons expect it to summon Parliament to meet immediately, but it is more probable that such a step would be taken only in a case of war.

It is being suggested that Lord Salisbury may offer the Boer demands by a note similar to Lord Beaconsfield's. Such a note, it is said, would be sent to the Boer President, and would be accompanied by a letter from the British Government, in which it would be stated that the Boer demands were being considered, and that the British Government would be ready to consider them in a friendly spirit.

A despatch received to-night from a semi-official Boer source in Johannesburg says that Dr. Jameson and the other prisoners will not be delivered over to the British authorities unless England consents to arbitrate the convention of peace and to recognize the independence of the Transvaal Republic. This, it is true, would revive in its acutest phase the crisis in South Africa, for the despatches received here from High Commissioner Robinson gave the impression that the Boers would surrender Dr. Jameson unconditionally.

ARRESTS IN JOHANNESBURG.

25 of the Reform Committee Charged with Treason—Kruger to the Queen.

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 10.—Twenty-two members of the National Reform Committee, whose efforts were devoted to fomenting the recent rebellious acts of the Uitlanders, were arrested by officers of the Transvaal Government at the rooms of the Reform Club last evening on a charge of high treason. They were all taken to Pretoria. The prisoners included Col. Rhodes, a brother of Cecil Rhodes, Sir Drummond Miles Dunbar, Lionel Phillips, and other leading members of Johannesburg.

The arrests created no excitement, the populace maintaining a perfectly indifferent attitude to the action of the authorities. LONDON, Jan. 10.—The Government has received a cablegram from Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of the Cape Colony, embodying President Kruger's reply to the message communicated to him by Mr. Chamberlain, expressing his satisfaction of the Queen at President Kruger's decision to turn over the British South Africa Company prisoners to officers of the Imperial Government. The reply is addressed to Sir Hercules Robinson, and is as follows: "I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the telegram received by your Excellency from the Secretary of State for the Colonies requesting you, by command of Her Majesty the Queen, to inform me of her message, in which Her Majesty expresses her satisfaction at my decision to hand over the prisoners to Her Majesty's Government. As I have already informed your Excellency, it is really my intention to act in this sense, so that Jameson and the British subjects under his command may be punished by Her Majesty's Government. I will inform your Excellency of my final decision in this matter as soon as Johannesburg shall have reverted to quietness and order."

In the mean time I request your Excellency to assure the Queen of my high appreciation of her words, and in offering her my respectful good wishes to express my thanks for the same.

A despatch from Johannesburg says that the Standard of that place publishes the statement that the release of Dr. Jameson and those of his followers who were taken prisoner by the Boers will be made conditional upon the abrogation of the treaty of 1884.

A despatch to the Central News from Berlin says that unless Great Britain satisfies the demands of President Kruger, which include the abrogation of the convention of 1884, by the terms of which England exercises suzerainty over the Transvaal, Germany will urge Kruger to appeal to the European powers to support him in his demands.

FAMOUS ROGUE CAUGHT.

HE'S DAVID J. COLEMAN OF THE LINCOLN BANK SWINDLE.

As Paul Brigham of Boston He Fooled Lawyer Luntzback and Lawyer Allen and Made Them His References for a Double Event That Almost Approaching Consumption. When One of the Victims Selected Called in the Police, He Was Forged References and Bogus Certified Checks, and Passed as a Capitalist.

A benevolent-looking old man, with a short black beard and small black eyes, in a black coat, Captain O'Brien's office at Police Headquarters last evening and regaled a number of reporters with some anecdotes which he considered amusing. Acting Capt. O'Brien had just described him as one of the greatest swindlers of the age. The man chuckled in himself and said: "Well, I am guilty, and I suppose I'll go to State prison; but a man has three meals a day there and it is well taken care of, and that is more than a good many can get outside."

He was well dressed, and looked like a bank director. His mention of names that are famous in the financial world, and his air of confidence, and his acquaintance with the business and personality of these men.

He is Paul Brigham, who has a police record under the names of George Watson, David J. Coleman, Charles E. Bartlett, and the nickname "The Lincoln Bank Swindler." He worked the famous Lincoln Bank swindle.

A few weeks ago the old man called on White & Spate, carpet manufacturers, at their store, 31 West Twenty-third street, and, presenting a card engraved with the name "Paul Brigham, Boston, Mass.," stated that he wished to make a business proposition to them.

He had been referred to them, he said, by the law firm of Howdy, Luntzback & Johnson of 22 William street, who had informed him that White & Spate were about to extend their business and were prepared to receive an investment.

The conversation was continued until the old man had been shown to the office of the firm, and he was willing to put it right into the firm by giving them a certified check if he were satisfied that the investment would be satisfactory. Mr. Spate, with whom Brigham conversed, showed him through the building, and Brigham confessed himself satisfied with what he saw.

Brigham promised to submit his offer to his partner, Mr. Sam White, on the latter's return from Philadelphia. An appointment was made for the 21st of December, and on that day, after a meeting with both partners, an agreement was arrived at by which the old man was to invest \$50,000 and receive a third of the profits of the business.

Brigham promised to have the legal papers drawn up by Howdy, Luntzback & Johnson, and ready to sign on Jan. 2. They were presented to the firm on that date, but were sent back for alterations, and the old man was told to return on Jan. 3. He returned on that day, and the firm, at Howdy, Luntzback & Johnson's office, signed the agreements. Mr. Spate not being present, they were brought up to Twenty-third street, where he afterward signed them.

Brigham's money was not forthcoming, but he explained the circumstances to the firm, and they agreed to wait. "I will come here on Friday morning with drafts for \$50,000, and at the same time I will make you a personal loan of \$15,000."

This was very satisfactory to the firm, and it was agreed to meet at Mr. Luntzback's office on Friday morning at 10 o'clock. The old man, having been arrived at Brigham and Spate's office on Friday morning, he was told to wait for some dry goods, and they drove to Sixty avenue.

Brigham remembered that he wanted to buy some diamonds for his wife, and at his request Mr. Spate went with him to the jewelry store of Theodore A. Brown, at Broadway and Third street. Brigham chose \$1,495 worth of jewelry, and ordered it to be sent to the office of White & Spate.

At the same time he explained to Mr. Spate that he had a ready money loan of \$15,000, and that he was ready to sign the legal papers for it. Mr. Spate, however, was not satisfied with the old man's story, and he called the jeweler to the office, and he called the jeweler to the office, and he called the jeweler to the office.

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THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

IT STATES THE BOND SITUATION AS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN IN THE SUN.

Surprise Expressed that Senator Caffery Did Not Make It a Part of His Speech on Monday, and Have a Discerning Criticism of the Administration, Based on the "Unfounded and Maliciously Misconstrued Assertions of a Sensational Newspaper."—The Bond Sympathizer Is Intact.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The publication of President Cleveland's letter to Senator Caffery, assuring the public that the Administration has not at any time had an arrangement or understanding with a syndicate of bankers to take the advertised issue of bonds and denouncing the unscrupulous and mendacious newspaper that has persistently and maliciously misrepresented the situation in Washington, created a little surprise, because it has been known all along to those who have means of learning the truth, that the President has been determined from the first to give the public a chance to bid for the bonds as might be offered for sale by the Government. Much surprise, however, is expressed, however, at the action of Senator Caffery in carrying the letter about for four days while the President was being misrepresented on the floor of the Senate by Senators who, as he said in his letter, might have learned the truth if they had asked for information in Washington, created a little surprise, because it has been known all along to those who have means of learning the truth, that the President has been determined from the first to give the public a chance to bid for the bonds as might be offered for sale by the Government. 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